

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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KC MAN CHARGED IN ATTEMPTED ARMED BANK ROBBERY AFTER SEEKING REWARD

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man who contacted police to claim a reward for information about an attempted armed bank robbery was himself charged in federal court today with participating in the crime.

Daniel D. Salazar, 19, of Kansas City, was charged with attempted armed bank robbery in a federal criminal complaint filed in Kansas City this afternoon.

"Mr. Salazar tried to cash in on the reward for his crime," Graves said, "but we decided to reward him in a way he didn't expect."

According to an affidavit filed in support of the federal criminal complaint, **Salazar** contacted the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department on May 13, 2004, and offered to provide information about the attempted robbery of Bank of America, 8550 Holmes in Kansas City, that occurred the day before. Local television and newspaper media had advertised a \$5,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for that attempted robbery and related unsolved bank robberies, the affidavit says. **Salazar** hoped to claim that reward by providing information about the robbers.

In the course of their investigation, the affidavit alleges, law enforcement officers learned that **Salazar** was one of three men who participated in the attempted bank robbery.

According to the affidavit, three men confronted an employee who routinely cleans the Bank of America building as he arrived for work at 5:40 a.m. on May 12, 2004. One of robbers was carrying a handgun and forced the employee to open the door as the other two robbers, also carrying handguns, approached. The robbers repeatedly ordered the employee to open the bank's vaults and teller drawers, the affidavit says, but he told them he did not have access to any of the

bank's money. When the robbers realized the employee was not able to provide them with any money, they left bank.

Graves cautioned that the charge contained in the complaint is simply an accusation, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charge must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney K. Michael Warner. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States
Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
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